

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DUBLIN 00756 071856Z
ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07 AGRE-00
AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00
DLOS-09 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 ERDA-05
FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /123 W
-----080705Z 106400 /21

R 071540Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8989
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIS EEC EI
SUBJ: ROW OVER IRELAND'S UNILATERAL FISHERY MEASURES

REF: A. DUBLIN 363, B. DUBLIN 727

1. FOLLOWING THE IRISH GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO IMPOSE
UNILATERAL FISHERY CONSERVATION MEASURES TO BE EFFECTIVE
MIDNIGHT APRIL 10, THE TWO IRISH MINISTERS INVOLVED WERE
APPARENTLY CAUGHT IN CONTRADICTORY STATEMENTS AS TO THE
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PAGE 02 DUBLIN 00756 071856Z

EFFECT OF THE DECISION. FISHERIES MINISTER DONEGAN STATED
THAT THE NEW BAN ON FISHING WITHIN THE 50-MILE LIMIT BY
VESSELS OVER A CERTAIN SIZE AND POWER WAS A TOTAL BAN.
FOREIGN MINISTER FITZGERALD SAID THERE WAS A POSSIBILITY
OF EXEMPTIONS TO THE BAN BASED ON "PLANS THAT COULD
BE SUBMITTED BY THE COUNTRIES INVOLVED". WHAT THESE
"PLANS" ARE, WAS LEFT UNSAID. THIS LEFT MEMBERS OF THE HIGHLY

VOCAL IRISH FISHERMEN'S ORGANIZATION BAFFLED BY THE
BACKTRACKING FROM A VICTORY THEY THOUGHT THEY HAD WON
AND HIGHLY IRRITATED WITH THE GOVERNMENT COALITION FOR
WHAT THEY SAW AS A SELLOUT.

2. DUBLIN'S NEWSPAPERS TODAY ARE REPORTING INDICATIONS
THAT THE DUTCH GOVERNMENT HAS NO INTENTION OF COMPLYING
WITH ANY DEMAND THAT THEY BILATERALLY SUBMIT "PLANS"
BEFORE BEING ALLOWED INSIDE THE 50-MILE LIMIT. IT IS
UNCLEAR FROM REPORTS HERE WHETHER THE NETHERLANDS INTENDS
TO TEST THE BAN BY DELIBERATELY FISHING INSIDE THE 50-MILE
LIMIT OR WHETHER THEY WILL TAKE THE QUESTION BACK TO THE
EC FOR YET ANOTHER GO AROUND.

3. COMMENT: POLITICAL COMMENTATORS SEE THE CONFUSION
AS AN EXAMPLE OF THE GOVERNMENT TRYING TO MEET TWO
COMPETING INTERESTS, WITH FISHERIES MINISTER DONEGAN
APPEARING TO TAKE A TOUGH STAND TO PLEASE DOMESTIC FISHING
INTERESTS, WHILE FOREIGN MINISTER FITZGERALD TRIES
TO AVOID A ROW WITH IRELAND'S EC PARTNERS OVER THEIR
TRADITIONAL FISHING RIGHTS. NEEDLESS TO SAY, WITH
ELECTIONS A POSSIBILITY THIS YEAR, THE OPPOSITION HAS
SEIZED THE OPPORTUNITY TO LABEL THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY
AS A SHAMBLES. CURLEY

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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